2001-02	1,15,83
2002-03	3,52,85
2003-04	3,32,56
2004-05	17,58,21

(b) and (c) The Government Welfare Fund has been decentralized. The State/UT Governments have been asked to set up their own State Consumer Welfare Fund for which seed money at the ratio of 50:50 (Centre:State) is given to the State/UT Govts. for North East and other special category states the ratio is 90:10 (Centre:State) as one time grant. The allocation to the State Government is proportionate to the number of districts in the State/UTs. The procedure for release of funds to the State Govts. is very simple.

Inclusion of families in BPL list

1304. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the parameters for inclusion of a family in B.P.L. list;

(b) the number of families listed, so far, under B.P.L. category, State-wise; and

(c) whether there is any system to review the list from time to time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) At the beginning of each Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Rural Development through State Governments conducts a Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census in all the States/UTs except Delhi and Chandigarh with a view to identify households living below the poverty line. An Expert Group was set up to advise on the criteria, methodology and survey Schedules for BPL Census (2002). The Expert Group submittted its report in September, 2002. The Report has recommended that thirteen scorable socio-economic indicators namely, Size group of operational holding of land, Type of house, Average availability of normal wear clothing, Food security, Sanitation, Ownership of cosumer durables, Literacy status of the highest literate adult, Status of the household in labour force, Means of Livelihood, Status of children, Type of

indebtedness, Reasons for migration from household and Preference for assistance, each having scores 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 depending on the status of the household, are to be used for working out a composite score for each rural household.

On the basis of the recommendations of Expert Group, the Ministry of Rural Development issued instructions to State Governments/UT Administrations to carry out the BPL Census, which was to be completed in June, 2003. However, due to ruling of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, in People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) Writ Petition No. 196 of 2001, the result of the BPL Census have not been finalized. The State-wise number of BPL families as identified by the States/UTs during BPL Census, 1997 is given in the Statement (*see* below). The list of BPL families is received after every Five years when a fresh BPL Census is conducted.

Statement

State-wise number of BPL families identified during BPL Census, 1997

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Rural families	%age of families below poverty line
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10484028	39.91
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	102852	78.39
3.	Assam	3607241	60.00
4.	Bihar	18933813	49.64
5.	Goa	135816	17.01
6.	Gujarat	5587768	25.45
7.	Haryana	2074615	24.25
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1036996	27.59
9.	J&K	1047251	57.92
10.	Karnataka	6479832	33.99
11.	Kerala	4714295	36.56
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11651082	43.87
13.	Maharashtra	11010022	35.07
14.	Manipur	365670	67.54
15.	Meghalaya	282362	55.48
16.	Mizoram	110570	67.07
17.	Nagaland$$	146615	60.39

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Rural families	%age of families below poverty line
18.	Orissa*$$	6790202	65.47
19.	Punjab	2330725	27.90
20.	Rajasthan	6768541	30.99
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	9388118	29.16
23.	Tripura	595397	66.81
24.	Uttar Pradesh	20430204	36.91
25.	West Bengal	11076686	44.40
26.	A&N Islands	30221	21.25
27.	D&N Haveli	26237	65.67
28.	Daman & Diu	10735	3.68
29.	Lakshdweep	8625	10.26
30.	Pondicherry	133555	47.37
	ALL INDIA	135360074	41.05

Source: Ministry of Rural Development
NR-Not Reported
*Provisional
$$-Rural Household

Wheat and rice to BPL families

1305. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been providing wheat and rice free of cost or at subsidized cost to the States for distribution among people living Below Poverty Line (BPL);

(b) if so, the State-wise details of BPL population in 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 alongwith the details of volumes of wheat and rice provided to the respective States during these periods, indicating the volume provided free of cost and those at subsidized cost; and

(c) the details of per quintal rates of wheat and rice issued to the States during the period?